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COUNTRY FUNERAL

By Sheridan Bole

The sun was sifting her golden
with a gentle hand among the
headstones of the cemetery
the church at the Corners on
late September afternoon when
id Aunt Mattie to her last rest.

Aunt Mattie had passed on. She
come a long way, eighty-four
, and she had walked all that
nce across the kitchen floor of
large farm home; and out to
barn to milk the cows and to
the ever shrilly-crying, hungry
In all that time she had never
much further from home, ex-
in dreams, than to the nearby
or on the yearly visit to her
ied daughter's home in the city
forty miles distant.

w worn out with all her trav-
she has gone on the longest
ey ever taken. And she who
d have trembled at the thought
ing more than a few miles
her own doorsill had known
ar as she set out on the illimit-
miles to the far-off golden
of that eternal city of which
had learned in her childhood
the Holy Book; and believed
her life.

took her to the Funeral Home
e nearby town. Some felt the
ce for Aunt Mattie should have
held in the little church where
had always worshipped. But
as easier this way. All the
bours came in and we sat
y together in the gloom of the
lighted "parlours" quietly and
ut a whisper, while the min-

ister conducted the service for Aunt
Mattie.

There were no hymns sung, as in
church, but two neighbour women
sang, "On a hill far away stood an
old rugged Cross" and "It's Good-
night here; but Goodmorning up
there," because these were Aunt
Mattie's favourites.

Slowly then, for each one of us
had some cherished memory to re-
call, we filed past the coffin and
looked for the last time on Aunt
Mattie's face. One recalled the day
when the threshers had come unex-
pectedly; and following right behind
them was the figure of Aunt Mattie
hurrying down the lane to lend a
helping hand in the kitchen. An-
other remembered the evening
when Aunt Mattie had come and
had sat up all night by the cot of
her sick baby; and to another the
memory was of the day when the
telegram had come, during the war
years, bearing sad news of a boy
who would come home no more;
Aunt Mattie had walked in the door,
to bring what comfort she could,
almost as soon as the telephone had
relayed the message from the rail-
way station. Many a tear secretly
found the fold of a wrinkled cheek
that afternoon.

The long procession of cars moved
slowly down the main street of the
town and found its way out to the
open country and stopped beside
the gates of the cemetery just be-
yond the church. The birds were
baptising themselves in and out of

"My soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars."

the beauty and glory of the autumn
trees and we stood in the shadows
they cast across the graveside and
heard the words that have always
brought comfort to the heavy heart,
"I am the Resurrection and the life,
saith the Lord."

When the brief service had end-
ed, the little band of mourners
scarce seemed to know, in their
grief, whether to go or stay. But
the neighbours quickly gathered
round and spoke, each one, a simple
word of comfort. In the warmth of
so much sympathy the sadness lift-
ed. For almost an hour we lingered,
talking and visiting—there in the
resting place of our fathers, set a-
mid the open fields; and the com-
munion of the saints was to us a
very real thing.

Then at some strange prompting,
as if the word had been passed a-
long without being spoken, as at a
given signal, we began to move to-
wards the open gate through which
we had come. The mourners, too,
turned homeward. The sun was
dropping down the sky. There was
the milking to do and the evening
chores. Then, the long day at last
done, the wearied hearts would
seek relief from loneliness and sor-
row in sleep and rest.

Aunt Mattie too, was now at rest;
her tired body reposing in God's
holy acre; her spirit gone forward.
Soon, too soon, the leaves that shade
her grave will wither and fall, and
the flowers will fade; but "my soul,
there is a country far beyond the
stars," and Aunt Mattie, we know,
is most surely safely there!

United Church Observer, Canada

News and Notes



**Ebenezer Lutheran Church
McCabe, Montana**

Ebenezer Luth. congregation celebrates its 5th anniversary, June 23. The present pastor, the Rev. Theo. M. Hansen, announces that the following pastors will be present for services all day: Einer Olsen, Alfred V. Andersen, Vernon Andersen, Eugene Wekander and Silas Larsen.

The festival is held in conjunction

with the North Dakota-Montana District meeting, which begins Sunday evening.

A fine booklet containing the history of the congregation, which had its start June 16, 1907, has been printed. It has a number of interesting notes from the pioneer days and about the pioneers on the prairies.

The Parish Workers of the American Lutheran Church will be meeting in convention at Dana College, Blair, Nebraska, from July 7-12. An invitation is extended to the Parish Workers of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church to attend and be a part of this convention. Write to Mrs. Eric Erickson, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Story and Bluff, Council Bluffs, Iowa for your reservation.

Two new Doctors, Pastor William Larsen, president of synod, and Professor Theo. I. Jensen, of Trinity Seminary were honored May 29th by Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. They were both given the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Norwalk, Calif., William J. Hanson and Melius Bollesen, pastors, broke ground for a new church on March 17. It is estimat-

ed that the new church will cost about \$160,000.

Iowa W.M.S.

The South Dakota circuit of the Iowa District met at St. Paul's Lutheran Church May 10.

Registration was at 10 a.m. and the forenoon session were included welcome from the Rockfield Ladies Aid by the chairman, Mrs. Mark Mortensen, and devotions and Bible study by Rev. K. R. Jensen of the Bethesda Lutheran church of Viborg. A vocal solo was sung by Mrs. Mark Mortenson and Mrs. E. L. Erlander talked Missions. A business session concluded the morning services.

A fellowship dinner was served at the Ladies Aid of Rockfield.

The afternoon's program consisted of scripture reading and prayer by Rev. Harold Madsen of the Turkey Valley Lutheran church at Viborg. Vocal numbers were presented by a group of Rockfield ladies. The message on missions and slide illustrations were given by John Nelson of the Bethesda Hospital at Beresford. A missionary offering was given. Greetings from the U.E.L.C. were presented by Mrs. Morris Ellison, circuit president. Rev. E. L. Erlander gave the closing prayer and benediction.

Seventy-seven guests were registered. Guests came from Sioux City, Viborg, Beresford, Spring Valley and Turkey Valley and from neighboring churches.

Pastors and Officials, whose names and addresses appear in the register of our Year Book and Pastor's Appointment Book, are kindly asked to notify the office of Lutheran Publishing House or Rev. P. C. Jensen, Blair, Nebraska, of any late changes in the setup not yet recorded or reported. This applies to board members and district officials,—and phone numbers.

P. C. J.

(Continued on page 15)

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Editorials and Comments

SYNOD'S GAIN AND LOSS

synod gained 2,172 baptized members in 1956. Gain comes from five districts. Wisconsin 919, Pacific 41, Nebraska 537, Iowa 313, and West Canada 59. Total of 2,669.

Following districts lost in membership: North Dakota-Montana 288, Illinois 149, Minnesota 33, and Pacific 17. A total of 487. This total loss subtracted from the total gain gives 2,172 net gain, or 3.6%.

Baptized membership is 62,004. 38,650 are confirmed.

Breakdown of baptized membership may be interesting:

Wisconsin District with 23 congregations gained 919, or 40 per congregation.

Pacific District with 20 congregations gained 841, or 42 per congregation.

Nebraska District with 37 congregations gained 537, or 14.5 per congregation.

Iowa District with 38 congregations gained 313, or 8.2 per congregation.

West Canada with 12 congregations gained 59, a total of 4.9 per congregation.

It should be said that in such small districts losses occur simply by revising the membership list. The fact that the quota to synod is based so definitely on membership will make the congregations try to keep the membership to a minimum. At least they will not remove confirmed members than necessary.

Wisconsin District has the best showing. It is almost equal to Pacific District even though so much home missionary work is done there.

It may be of interest to compare 1955 with 1956. As for baptisms we did better in 1956 than in 1955.

As far as membership gain we did not do as well. In 1955 we had a net gain of 2,924 baptized members compared to 2,172 in 1956.

Gain in Sunday School children were 2,487 in 1955, in 1956 it was only 1,140. It is reported that we have 24,813 in our Sunday Schools.

Iowa, 1955, had the highest membership gain, 890. Pacific District had 789. Wisconsin had only 369.

SYNOD'S FINANCES

The income from all sources in 1956 was \$2,526,293. This is an amount of \$65.47 per confirmed member.

\$488,128.11 was given to the synod's missions (synod quota), Lutheran World Action, foreign missions and district missions, or 12.65 per confirmed member.

When we think of \$64.47 per confirmed member, we reach the amount of \$130.94 for man and wife together. This means about \$150.00 a year per family, for there are a number of young people in each family.

But we know that many families gave less than \$150.00, so a good many families have given a great deal more than \$150.00.

Stewardship is a good barometer of your love for the Kingdom of God.

AT THE CONVENTION

The date of this paper is June 17, that is the day before the annual convention closes. We are trying something new this year. We begin Thursday evening and finish the convention Tuesday noon. This will prevent pastors from going home on Sunday, which may be just as well. It will be good for them to have a Sunday at the convention.

As we look over the convention program a week before it will begin, we feel like predicting that it will be a very easy convention. We have studied the pre-convention reports, and we do not find anything that will create any heat.

We look forward to good fellowship. This is one of the fine features of our conventions; they are like family gatherings.

Some say we shall miss these conventions when we merge. But we do not believe we shall miss them very much. The fact that we shall meet in district conventions every year which will be even larger than our present synodical conventions, will be greatly appreciated. We are scattered from coast to coast and from North to South. Some congregations and pastors are very lonely. It will be wonderful for them to enter into a larger fellowship.

A word about the convention city. This is the only city in the United States where we have four congregations. They have all together about 4,000 members. Other Lutheran bodies have congregations in Racine. The Missouri Synod has 10, the United Lutheran Church has three churches with a total of 8,000 baptized members, Augustana and the E.L.C. each has one, and the A.E.L.C. has one.

The city is about 80,000 in size so the Lutheran Church must have no little influence in the city.

In the next issue, we shall bring you a great deal of the convention news.

Church News from here and there

NEARLY ALL ELC PASTORS IN CANADA HAVE RECEIVED PART OF THEIR TRAINING IN CANADA.

There are only six ordained parish pastors in the Canada District of the E.L.C., at present who have not received some of their training in one of our Canadian Schools — that is, either at Camrose Lutheran College, The Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute, the Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute, or Luther Theological Seminary, Saskatoon.

Fortunately we have between sixty and seventy ordained pastors serving in Canada today in our Evangelical Lutheran Church, and all except six are products of our Canadian Schools. It is hard to tell exactly just how many from these schools are pastors in the States, and how many are missionaries in Foreign fields, but we are sure that the number of pastors, missionaries and other professional church workers that have gone out from our Canadian Schools now exceeds a hundred.

But the laborers still are few for the Lord's harvest fields, and this is no time to relax. What if we today had to do without the pastors from our Canadian Schools? What if there were only six pastors in our District?

—J.B.S.

Indonesian President Stresses Christian Peace Role

President Sukarno of Indonesia told delegates to the Eastern Asia Christian Conference there that Christianity has a vital role to play in helping to bring peace and justice to peoples everywhere.

The conference, which is the largest ever held by Protestants in that part of the world, was ushered in with a monster open-air rally attended by 100,000 persons. It was arranged by the Protestant churches of East Sumatra in welcome to

124 representatives from 24 countries of Asia and other parts of the world.

The conference was sponsored by the World Council of Churches, the International Missionary Council, and the Indonesian Council of Churches.

Ceremonies greeting overseas delegates were among the most colorful and significant ever witnessed in this predominantly Moslem country. They were staged at Lake Toba not far from where, in 1834, two American missionaries, Henry Lyman and Samuel Munson, from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, were slain for having dared to venture near what was regarded by the then savage Batak tribes as a holy lake.

Today, the Toba Batak Church has its headquarters near the lake. This church claims more than half the 1,200,000 Bataks of Sumatra. Altogether in Indonesia there are now some 3,000,000 Protestants and 1,000,000 Roman Catholics.

SAYS PROTESTANTS NEED CLEAR-CUT 'SEPARATION' DEFINITION

Protestants need a clear-cut definition of "separation of Church and State," a religious liberty expert told the annual Church Conference of Social Work at Philadelphia.

Dr. Claud D. Nelson, executive director of the Department of Religious Liberty of the National Council of Churches, said there is "haziness and confusion" among churchmen over "the much-used phrase."

"It is used as a shibboleth, more than anything else," he said. "Even Supreme Court decisions pertaining to it seem to be confusing and conflicting."

The conference was sponsored by the National Council's Department

of Social Welfare in cooperation with the Christian Social Work Associates. It was held in conjunction with the National Conference on Social Work.

Dr. Henry J. Whiting, well-known secretary for the National Lutheran Council, took the position that "there is nothing wrong with accepting public funds, if there are no strings attached." Other speakers pointed out that 90 per cent of all social welfare is supported by public funds, and that many private agencies get up to 90 percent in public support.

Dr. Whiting said that "teamwork" and "total involvement" should be meaningful words to the Christian social worker.

Both are necessary, he said, if the whole man and not just his spirit is the concern of the church's social welfare program.

YOUTH GET CALL FOR MISSIONARY ADVENTURE

An opportunity for Christian young people in search of adventure was outlined by Mrs. Elise Vargas, a veteran missionary in Honduras, before the international mission board of the Evangelical and Reformed Church at Cleveland.

"If they don't mind hard work and if they can do without most of the comforts of life, I'd like them to come and work with me," she said.

"They won't get rich and they won't have much chance for cultural pursuits but they'll know the joy that comes in simple service for others."

Mrs. Vargas said she and her husband went to Honduras as pioneer missionaries in 1923. A year later her husband died.

"But I never thought of returning to the States," she said. "There was work to be done and I was determined to do it."

"Since then, working out of the city of Vinlanveva, I've tried to minister to the people over a 120-mile area. Often I've traveled by foot. Sometimes I've been lucky enough

are a truck with pigs, chickens freight."

but I've never lacked an audience," she observed. "Wherever I've been, in small town or big, people come running to hear me. I've never known anyone more interested in the Gospel."

rs. Vargas said the big need today is for teachers, pastors and nurses who will train native Hondurans.

if they do a good job of teaching," he added, "there is a good chance for our work in the future."

rs. Vargas said there are now Honduran pastors, evangelists, nurses and teachers working throughout the area under the supervision of missionaries.

CONGREGATION'S BLOOD KEEPS PASTOR ALIVE

Virginia, Minn.—The Rev. N. Edvard Vickberg continues to occupy the pulpit of First Lutheran church almost every Sunday despite the fact that doctors have told him he is dying of cancer.

Members of the congregation are keeping him alive. They are giving him their blood.

has been nearly three years since the feelings of "complete exhaustion" Pastor Vickberg experienced were diagnosed to be the result of what doctors call "a malignant lymphome."

closely related to Hodgkin's disease this has produced a general anemic condition in which Pastor Vickberg's body cannot produce the red qualities vital to survival.

In the past year he has had nearly 10 blood transfusions. Recently they have been stepped up to two a week.

Actually, it comes mostly from members of the congregation who are on a close watch on his "blood count" at Virginia Municipal Hospital. When the account runs low, the word is passed quietly and soon he has a surplus again.

Some of it also comes from the pastor's many friends outside his own congregation—members of other faiths.

Roman Catholics in his neighborhood recently went from house to house to surprise him with money to help meet the cost of his medical care.

A Jewish woman leader called him "an exponent of brotherhood in the real sense—always so open-minded."

There has been many times in the past year when Pastor Vickberg was not sure he would be able to conduct a service.

Because his chest cavity fills with fluid he has to have it tapped three times a week. And because coagulating agents are not transmitted in blood transfusions the slightest cut produces a hemorrhage.

Pastor Vickberg recalls times when he has been hemorrhaging an hour before a service. He has prayed for the ability to perform the service and, when the time arrived, the bleeding stopped.

SCOTTISH MODERATOR HITS TALK OF 'UNIVERSAL CHURCH'

Talk of one great "universal Church" was branded as nonsensical by the Rev. Murdoch Macphail, newly-elected moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland in his inaugural address at Edinburgh, Scotland.

"Much theological nonsense has been written and spoken by those who advocate a universal Church," he said.

"One great Church, according to certain enthusiasts, is the remedy for the ills which afflict humanity. To them it is a glorious image even if it has feet part of iron and part of clay. Why, such people ask, should we emphasize differences between the churches in a world hostile to Christianity? Why not concentrate on the things the churches have in common?"

The moderator, who hails from Croy in Invernessshire, said that "our existing ecclesiastical organization may not be the final form of the visible Church on earth but a mechanical arrangement as proposed seems to be quite as unnatural as a world government."

Commenting on the international situation, Mr. Macphail said that despite its many resolutions the United Nations has been no more successful in preventing war than its predecessor, the League of Nations.

"Doubtless the UN has done some good, but it has two standards of morality," he said. Within recent weeks it seemed to work inexorably against civilized and democratic institutions and in favor of backward and despotic nations."

ALC REPORTS RECORD GAIN IN MEMBERS TO 937,512

Numerical gains in both the baptized and confirmed membership of the American Lutheran Church during 1956 were the highest since the denomination was organized in 1930, it was reported at Columbus, Ohio, by Miss Clara Haberman, statistician of the Church.

The ALC's baptized membership rose to 937,512 persons, a gain of 38,434 or 4.27 per cent over the previous year, while confirmed membership reached 626,324, an increase of 23,427 or 3.89 per cent, Miss Haberman said. The percentage gains were the second highest in the ALC's history, exceeded only in 1954.

The statistician's report also disclosed that the ALC has 2,062 pastors and 2,093 congregations. Contributions by its members totaled \$39,872,548, of which \$5,815,992 was given to benevolence.

Sunday school enrollment at the close of the year unnumbered 321,692 pupils with 34,567 teachers. In addition, 50,008 children were reported on the nursery roll.

The Washington Observer

By Gerhard Lenski

IN BEHALF OF LUTHERAN REFUGEE SERVICE

Our "Lutheran Refugee Service" has done excellent work. As one of the four agencies receiving the Chamberlain Award in recognition of its services, there can be no doubt as to the over-all importance and efficiency of its effort. The sad fact, however, is that more work of this kind is still desperately needed but, due to misinformation, lack of information and general apathy, is now not being done at all.

Special reference is made here to legislation dealing with immigrants, especially with those now falling in the refugee and displaced persons category. Here are brave people under severe pressure and in dire need, some of our own faith, seeking the shelter of our shores, yet denied entry into our land, because of laws which obviously are outmoded, unsatisfactory and long due for change. One critic puts it this way: "We do not drive a 1920 car. Why have immigration quotas based on the 1920 census, when we have censuses for 1930, 1940, 1950 and are getting ready for one in 1960?" An example of the present system reveals a favored country like Great Britain using about one third of its allotted number while other countries like Hungary with small allotments have long lists waiting to enter.

This whole matter becomes especially acute at this time on various scores. The last visa for refugees entering this country under the Refugee Relief Act was signed December 31, 1956. Under the provisions of this visa the last group of refugees, some 1,250, among them 195 assisted by Lutheran Refugee Service, arrived here last April 30. Others, not a few, deserving and eager to come, must wait. Only a few manage to trickle through by being transferred to the German quota or included in some special arrangement made for Hungarians.

While need persists, Congress delays action. Three important bills continue to be buried in Committee deliberations. The first, the Watkins-Keating Bill (S 1006 and H.R. 4205), embodies President Eisenhower's recommendations and greatly amends and im-

proves our present Immigration and Nationality Act. The second, the Celler Bill (H.R. 3364) is likewise designed to replace the old, outmoded bill, with features new and more liberal. The third, the Walter Bill (H.R. 4008), introduced by the author of the present bill, is drawn with the feeling that this present bill fairly well meets existing needs. Our leaders of the National Lutheran Council, quite apart from any political partisanship, favor a liberalizing of the present law, an enlarging of the quota and a general formula by which one sixth of one percent of the population of the United States, approximately 250,000 persons, might be admitted annually. The appeals of our leaders and also those of other large groups continue unanswered. A phone call by the writer of these words to the office of Representative Walter, Chairman of the House Sub-Committee and another to the Immigration Office itself bring the reply: "No action as yet and we do not know when."

All the while a great contention over Foreign Aid goes on in Congress. While cuts here and there will probably be made before the final amount for such aid is set and approved, it is obvious that the sums to be appropriated will be astronomical in size, running into literal billions. At this same time, in this refugee and immigrant area where personal need is great and where far smaller outlays are involved, difficulty, frustration and delay continue. In a recent issue of the **Congressional Record** Senator Jenner of Indiana comments caustically on our government spending thousands of dollars to send negro jazz bands to Russia and South America on tours of so-called "cultural exchange." The same issue records some sharp criticism of Senator Kennedy's advice to give added millions to Poland. Other great spending projects loom, some as foolish as moon-shine for breakfast. They engross the attention of busy Congressmen and clutter the works. Meanwhile the last visa expires and the last group arrives. Under such depressing circumstances the ancient prayer of God's troubled saint — "How long, O Lord, how long?" — takes on a new and truly tragic meaning.

THERE'S SOMETHING WE CAN

In a letter recently sent by Cordelia Cox, Director of Lutheran Refugee Service, to the several of our Lutheran church papers the following statement is made:

"The only hope for immigration legislation now or in the future lies in the expressed interest of the people of America. If our Lutheran people acting individually and in groups would press for legislation now and failing at this time, press for it again in the fall, we could build the sentiment in Congress which would bring favorable results. I believe many Lutherans would speak out if they but realized the importance of their voice."

Miss Cox indicates clearly what is that she means should be done to build this sentiment. We can write personal letters in behalf of immigration legislation for immigrants to our Senators and Representatives in Congress and we can also write special letters to the members of the House and Senate Committees commissioned to deal with this important matter. Who are these Congressmen? They are listed as the following:

Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and of the Sub-Committee on Immigration — Senator,

Eastland

Senator Everett M. Dirksen

Senator Sam J. Irvin, Jr.

Senator Roman L. Hruska

Senator Olin D. Johnston

Senator John L. McClellan

Senator Arthur V. Watkins

Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee — Emanuel Celler

Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Immigration — Francis

Walter

Frank L. Chelf

Michael A. Feighan

Patrick H. Hillings

De Witt S. Hyde

It is to be noted that two of the latter group, Representatives Walter and Hyde, are Lutherans.

To her fine appeal Miss Cox writes these strong words:

"The Committeemen name the people above and your own Congressmen and Senators are key men who should know your interest in a humane and non-discriminatory immigration policy. Even if you have written before, the time to write has come again. Unless there is citizen interest, there is no possibility none of the bills will come out of Committee."

You and I can do something about it—we can and we should!

reed in Christ

TO BE SLAVES OF GOD

Opening Sermon at Synodical Convention

By William Larsen

President of U.E.L.C.

But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. Then what return did you get for the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life." Romans 6:17-22.

Every man has in his heart a yearning for freedom. In our world today vast masses of people are moving toward political freedom. For this idea is one of all times and in all nations men have been willing to give their lives. Our government expends millions of dollars every year for the purpose of maintaining freedom for the individual. The mutual security program, through which the United States proposes to spend four billion dollars a year, is for the purpose of helping to maintain freedom in many other countries. The price of freedom for ourselves and for others comes high.

We are grateful that we may work and work according as God has given us opportunity. We may speak and write as we have been given the right to express ourselves. Men were made to be free and to live according to the light which has come to them.

While we would never minimize the importance of political and economic freedom, the Apostle Paul in this sixth chapter of Romans is talking about the freedom that comes to the children of God. The freedom in Christ comes to us as a gift of grace through the merits

of our Lord and Savior. "You are bought with a price; do not become the slaves of men." 1 Cor. 7:23. Paul breaks into a song of thanksgiving to God that Jesus Christ has made men free for a new sanctification and for growth in His Spirit: "Thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness."

To be free in Christ from the binding power of sin is the most prized gift that can be given to men. This is the freedom that has been made available through the life-giving power of Jesus Christ by the death that He died. Freedom in Christ is a heritage that comes to the children of God.

The concept of freedom is, however, never static. It is always dynamic, that is, it exists only in the experiences of life. It is most obvious to us all that economic and political freedom brings with it new responsibilities. The free countries in our world, Canada and the United States among them, have grave obligations to all other countries around the world. This illustrates my point, that freedom can never be a mere trophy. It can not be put into a show-case and left there to be on display. We have been entrusted with the gift of freedom that it may be used daily in a responsible fashion. We have obligations to our brethren in all parts of the world that they may know the same freedom that has come to us.

Likewise, it is also true that those of us who have the new freedom in Jesus Christ have been set free from the bondage of sin and have experienced the glorious life in Him Who has bought us with the price of His blood. We have a responsibility to those who are living in sin and despair. We have been made free to become slaves of God. A new sanctification comes to us through the Holy Spirit and works in us that we might do the will of God.



Dr. William Larsen

The Church as the Communion of Servants

The word church means literally the ones who are called. Often we refer to the church as the communion of saints. Paul, in this section of his letter to the Romans, implores them to yield themselves to righteousness for sanctification. He further states clearly that to become free in Christ means that we are in bondage to a new Lord. From this point of view we may speak of the church as the communion of servants. The new freedom in Christ has brought a new servitude, in which we come to recognize new responsibilities resting upon us.

It is the task of the church to bear witness to the freedom in Christ, and at the same time point to the work which is to be done in His Name. We are servants of God in Christ Jesus, and it is a life-long process to grow in sanctification. Greater and greater opportunities to serve Him are revealed to us by His Spirit.

Growth in Sanctification

The United Evangelical Lutheran Church may therefore be spoken of as a communion of servants in Jesus Christ. I want, therefore, to speak about the implications of being slaves of God. For as we must grow in the new sanctification in Christ as individuals, so we must also look forward to growth in the inner life as a church. We must expect that God will continually give us new responsibilities. Growth as a church in the new sanctification is a process to which we are daily called by the work of His Spirit.

We must first thank God for the work of His Spirit in our church through these many years. We can not but bow before Him in thanksgiving for His patience with us as His children. Too often we have not responded to the guidance of His Spirit, and we must count ourselves as un-

worthy servants in His sight. On the other hand, we must humbly express our gratitude to God that He has guided our church to do the work that has been done. Under the leadership of the pastors that have been given to our church and under the guidance of the leaders who have committed themselves to Him, our church has been privileged to serve Him and His people through these many years.

Our Home Missions

As a communion of servants of God we have been able to establish new congregations through our Home Mission Board. At no time in the history of our work have there been such great opportunities to minister to the people of the United States and Canada as there is now. As servants of God we have the task of doing what we can that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may come to those who still are slaves of sin. We are grateful to God that in this past year a new congregation has been formed. Let us continue to pray that we may find new opportunities to serve and that people in communities where there is no church may have occasion to worship Him. There is no gift that God can bestow upon human beings that is as great as the gift of freedom in Christ. To be free in Christ and to have a church in which one has fellowship with Him and His servants is the real goal of all men, whether they recognize it or not.

I believe that the Lutheran Church has a unique responsibility and a relevant message for our day. The Holy Gospel must be preached to our people and the sacraments must be administered in order to do the will of God. "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved."

Foreign Missions

While we have a serious concern for home mission work, we also recall the command of Jesus to go and make disciples of all nations. In the last decade we have experienced a growing concern for foreign missions, but, at the same time, we realize that we have hardly begun to obey our Lord's great commission.

Our daily papers, magazines, and newscasts point clearly to the need for bringing the Gospel to all lands. Tensions in our world are strong, and we fear the possibility of an international conflagration. As slaves of God, constrained by His love for us, we simply must come to terms with the obligation to bring the Gospel to all lands. Sometimes it occurs to me that we actually do not believe in the freedom wherewith Christ has made us free. Occasionally I wonder whether or not we take serious the truth that Jesus Christ has set us free from death and

provided us with a new life. When I consider that our church gives less than ten cents per baptized member a month to foreign missions, I wonder wherein our concern rests. When I think of the economy in which we are living and of the good things that God has bestowed upon us, I cannot help but wonder whether we really are serious in our Christian faith. To what are we in bondage, or, more accurately, whom are we serving?

Home missions and foreign missions are the task of the church. As the communion of servants in His church, it is through the missionary enterprise that we express our gratitude to God.

Our Seminary

In order to provide the necessary personnel to carry out the missionary work that is our responsibility, it is necessary for us to provide educational institutions. God has given to us a theological seminary and a liberal arts college in order that new recruits for His Kingdom may be properly trained for the generations which are to come.

Many of our congregations have become increasingly aware of how difficult it is to secure a shepherd to serve them. When a congregation becomes vacant, it is often necessary to wait for several months before a new pastor arrives. We are painfully aware of the necessity for men who serve God in the Christian ministry. We thank God for the young men who will be ordained this year and pray the Lord's blessing upon them in the pastoral work. Our pastors in the confirmation classes have their eyes upon boys who might consider the call of the Christian ministry. It appears now that more and more men will be needed in the church to do the enlarging task that God is placing before us. Let us not fail to call to the attention of our children that God might possibly be calling them to serve His church.

Our College

At no time have there been as many candidates for higher education as now. I have the conviction that the Lord of the church has preserved Dana College through these many years not only that it might serve generations of college students of the past but that it might be prepared and ready to serve the church and the country at this time when more and more students are seeking a college education. Dana College has a unique place in our hearts, and it can serve the church in a manner that no other educational institution can. We have all heard again and again that in the next decade the college enrollment in America will be almost doubled. We know that large percentages of every high school class will go to college. Through our college we

have the privilege of creating a sphere wherein the students and faculty come aware of what it means to be servants of Christ. Think for a moment of what it means when a teacher of public education is committed to the Lord Jesus Christ. Imagine the significance when a man in public life, whether in service to government, recognizes that God is the ruler of all things. Think of the opportunity that a Christian business man has in ever community he lives.

I have mentioned only a few of our missions. As a communion of the servants of God the scope is much broader, and the task is much heavier. I could have spoken of the mission to the Indians, the service to the work in the National Lutheran Council which is broadening our service in the World Council of Churches, and of many other areas that have given sufficient illustration to point out some of the meaning of living in the righteousness of Christ. The new sanctification in Christ ever widens the horizon and gives a new perspective for the work that has been given to us. As an individual continues to grow in appreciation of what it means to be a slave of God, so the church, through the means of the Gospel, becomes aware of the opportunities for service. I am convinced that there are new fields of service that we have not yet seen. God in His goodness will make us aware of them. May we by His Spirit be ready to move and work both in our local congregations and in a church that is living day by day by His Grace. We are only babes in Christ and we have not really become aware of what it means to be a slave of God. Our church can do much more than we have ever dreamed of, and the prayer of the church must be that by His Holy Spirit will guide us to help us to become aware of our gratitude. We know that Jesus Christ made us free and that we are justified by His work. We gratefully come to Him to thank Him for His love to all. The sanctification of His church is not an instantaneous act, and we must before Him in humble prayer that He will continue to be patient and faithful to work in us by His Spirit.

To be a slave of God is not always easy, but if we are not slaves of God we will be slaves of someone else. We must grow in the new sanctification for if we do not grow in Him, we shall die in despair.

"But now that you have been freed from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Women's Missionary

Federation Goal

By Mrs. Roy O. Storvick of the E.L.C.

(The second in a series of articles)

What are the goals of the Women's Missionary Federation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church?

The general WMF constitution lists six purposes or goals: To inspire in the individual member a deeper conviction to her Savior.

To promote and stimulate love for the great mission of the church: making all nations disciples of Christ.

To disseminate knowledge of missions in general, and of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in particular.

To aid financially the missionary activities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church through its various church societies.

To unite all women's societies within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in harmonious cooperation for the mission of the church: the charities and the schools of our church.

To organize missionary societies and children's missionary societies wherever practicable.

In this article, I would like to bring these general goals down to a personal basis. Chief among these goals is, by the grace of God to be a Christian—a praying, Christ-loving, Bible-studying, Spirit-led Christian.

Secondly, we purpose ever to set this ideal before our eyes so that our homes may truly be as those St. Paul described—“To the church in thy house.”

The third goal is well expressed in our Handbooks, “Under the guidance of the Spirit we should be effective instruments for the extension of God's Kingdom unto the most parts of the earth.” This goal would also include, as a zealous interest in the colleges and seminaries of the church that an adequate supply of trained, consecrated personnel be available to meet the need of the church in all its ramifications, mission, charities, education, preaching, teaching, both at home and abroad.

The fourth goal is also deeply personal in nature. We trust that our WMF members may be led by the Spirit to a true conception of stewardship, a stewardship that embraces the whole of life.

The prospect of the union of our Evangelical Lutheran Church with the American Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church makes us conscious of the importance of still another goal. The entire membership of our Women's Missionary Federation should study the purposes, goals, methods, personalities, and organization of other women's groups of the other Synods. Such a study is valuable so that when the Union of our Synods is completed we as women of the church may work together harmoniously to a common goal of serving Him whom to know is the Eternal.

There remains therefore a “continuing instant in prayer” for the realization of these goals according to His Will. He promises, “If with all your hearts ye truly seek me ye shall surely find me.” We approach His mercy seat to plead for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the Spirit's in-dwelling. We pray for courage and vision to widen our hearts to include all people. Then shall He “put a new song in our mouths, a song of praise to our God.” Psalm

(Continued on page 13)



THE WEEK AT DANA

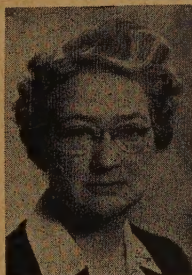
your midcontinent college

SUMMER SESSION ENROLLMENT UP 72% ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS EXPECTED

A summer session enrollment figure that is the largest in Dana history will be even higher when the students who will enroll for the post session and the college credit tour have been added to those already here. The figure of 65, reached last week at the beginning of the first summer session, is a 72% increase over the five-year average enrollment of 38. Last year's enrollment was 44. The figures for past enrollments include all summer session students, while the figure of 65 includes only this year's regular session. Summer courses are designed primarily for teachers, but other students are also enrolled.

Half of the students enrolled come from Iowa and Nebraska communities not in the immediate area of Blair. The regular summer session began June 3 and will end on July 6; the post session continues from July 8 through July 26. On July 29 the tour for college credit begins.

SIXTH ANNUAL TOUR IS AN EXPEDITION TO 350-YEAR-OLD JAMESTOWN AND CANADA



A rolling college that is in part an expedition to the 350th anniversary celebrations at Jamestown, Va., will leave Dana College on July 29 for a twenty-five day tour. College credit of two or three hours in Education or Social Studies may be earned by those who so desire. Others may join the educational tour as auditors.

Again this year Dana's popular tour leader, Miss Elja McCullough of the Department of Education, is in charge of the trip. Tour highlights in the United States will be Mammoth Cave, Washington, Mt. Vernon, Annapolis, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. From there the tour moves into French Canada—to Quebec, the only walled city in North America, and on to Montreal and Niagara Falls.

The trip will be made in air-conditioned buses. Lodging accommodations and sightseeing are included in the cost of \$245 for the tour. Meals are extra. It is possible to join for either the first half of the tour, which includes the Jamestown expedition, or for the last half, which includes French Canada. The cost will be reduced accordingly.

During the past five years Miss McCullough has conducted Dana tours to Alaska, Cuba, Mexico and Europe, as well as to all parts of the United States.

It is still possible for a few latecomers to join the tour. If interested, write to Dana College.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, E

Californians Participate in Convention Eve



Mr. Luther Lincoln



Miss Donna Jean Petersen



Pastor Adolph Kloth

Three Californians will hold prominent spots in two of the featured events of the International Luther League Convention meeting in Fresno, California, June 27-30.

At the Mass Youth Rally being held in the Fresno Park Bowl on Friday evening, Miss Donna Jean Petersen of San Francisco and Mr. Luther Lincoln of Oakland will appear on the program with Dr. Marcus Rieke, American Lutheran Church Youth Director. All Christian young people of the Fresno area have been invited to this outdoor rally.

Speaking at the Saturday morning session in Sequoia National Park will be the Reverend Adolph Kloth of North Hollywood.

Mr. Lincoln, who is a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (UELCL) in Oakland, is the Speaker of the California State Assembly. He was a member of Dana's undefeated 1932 football team and sang in the Dana College Choir. Besides his responsibilities as

Speaker of the Assembly, Mr. Lincoln is a member of the Board of Regents of the University of California and was a delegate to the President's White House Conference on Education. His theme at the Mass Youth Rally will be "The Truth Shall Make You Free."

Miss Petersen, who is the daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Spener S. Petersen of Ansgar Lutheran Church (UELCL) in San Francisco, sings with the Cosmopolitan and Pacific Opera Companies in San Francisco. She sang the leading role in Rossini's "Cinderella" when it was presented by the Guild Opera Company in Los Angeles this winter, and also won acclaim for her performance in "Madame Butterfly" in San Francisco. Although absorbed in her musical career, Donna Jean remains active in her church where she serves in choir, fellowship league, and Sunday School work.

The Reverend Adolph Kloth is pastor of Vallejo Lutheran Church in North Hollywood. This congregation to which he came in 1951, has just observed its 50th anniversary having started as a mission congregation.

Leadership Training Schools For July and August

The following are the Leadership Training Schools being conducted by the American Lutheran Church and Evangelical Lutheran Church to which our young people are invited.

The purpose of these schools is to train promising young people to become better leaders within their local church leagues. For this reason it is well to send young people who will remain in Luther League work within the congregation for at least a year or two. Those who are serving as officers will have the greatest opportunity to apply new methods learned. Normally, the congregation pays for the cost of sending the young people.

State, rather than district, designation is used in the following list. The final initials indicate which synod is sponsoring the school. Registrations should reach the registrar well in advance of the dates for the school to be attended.

Washington: July 1-6; Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland; Reg.: Rev. Robert Rieke, 210 SW 142 St., Seattle Wash.; ALC.

North Dakota: July 1-6; Jamestown College, Jamestown; Reg.: Rev. Roland C. Jakober, New Leipzig, N. D.; ALC.

Iowa: July 2-7; Bible Conference Grounds, Cedar Rapids; Reg.: Miss Gail Fluhrer, 809½ Iowa St., Cedar Rapids, Ia.; ALC.

Ohio: July 7-12; Capital University, Columbus; Reg.: Rev. Paul Milheim, Bethlehem Luth. Church, S. Harrisburg, Vida Place, Columbus, O.; ALC.

Saskatchewan: July 8-13; Luther College, Regina; Reg.: Rev. W. E. Riegert, Box 134, Neudorf, Sask.; ALC.

Michigan: July 9-14; Bay Shore Camp of EUB, Bay Shore, Sebawaing; Reg.: Rev. Wm. Kiether, 3700 N. Main Ave., Midland, Mich.; ALC.

Illinois: July 28-Aug. 3; Wheaton; Reg.: Rev. Dale M. Johnson, East Jordan, Mich.; ELC.

Minnesota: July 29-Aug. 3; St. Olaf College; Reg.: Rev. Milo Engelstad, 8309 Fremont Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.; ELC.

North Dakota: July 29-Aug. 3; Dakota Academy; Reg.: Rev. John Nicolai, 228 Ave. D West, Bismarck, N. D.; ELC.

North Dakota: July 29-Aug. 3; Park River; Reg.: Rev. John Johnson, Hoople, N. D.; ELC.

Wisconsin: July 30-Aug. 4; Lutheran Church Camp, Beaver Dam; Reg.: Rev. Carl Stubenvoll, 207 State St., Beaver Dam, Wis.; ALC.

Montana: Aug. 4-10; Bozeman; Reg.: Rev. James Hanson, Hardin, Mont.; ELC.

Iowa: Aug. 4-10; Luther College, Decorah; Reg.: Rev. I. M. Gjellstad, 721 Washington St., Decorah, Ia.; ELC.

South Dakota: Aug. 4-10; Augustana, Sioux Falls; Reg.: Rev. Robert Anderson, Mitchell, S. D.; ELC.

Nebraska: Aug. 5-10; Hastings College; Reg.: Rev. Harold A. Martens, Tescott, Kan.; ALC.

Minnesota: Aug. 5-10; St. Olaf; Reg.: Rev. Robert Bergeson, 6 Fareway Place, Northfield, Minn.; ELC.

Washington: Aug. 11-17; Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland; Reg.: Rev. Luther Watness, 8229 S. W. 45 Ave., Portland, Ore.; ELC.

Minnesota: Aug. 18-24; Concordia College, Moorhead; Reg.: Rev. Nyer Urness, Pequot Lakes, Minn.; ELC.

California: Aug. 19-24; Palo Alto; Reg.: Rev. Sherman Korshavn, 700 E. 70 St., Long Beach.; ELC.

New York: Aug. 26-31; Upsala College; Reg.: Rev. Robert Nervig, 411 46th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; ELC.

Alberta: Aug. 30-Sept. 2; Camrose; Reg.: Rev. Sidney Nelson, 11th Ave. and 24th St., Lethbridge, Alberta; ELC.

YOUTH OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD

MATERIALS FOR YOUR YOUTH PROGRAM

ORDER FROM THE YOUTH OFFICE

X. FILMSTRIPS WITH RECORDINGS: Rent free unless specified.

1. "And With This Ring" (Subject: Mixed Marriages. 78 rpm)
2. "And You Also Are Witnesses" (Subject: Personal Evangelism. 33½ rpm)
3. "A Tip Or A Talent" (Subject: Teenage Stewardship. 33½ rpm)
4. "Campus Christian Frontiers" (Subject: L.S.A., Rental \$2.85 — 33½ rpm)
5. "This Is Leadership School" (Subject: Leadership Training. 33½ rpm)
6. "Thy Word Is a Lamp. (Subject: Pocket Testament League. 33½ rpm)
7. "Toward Bold Endeavor." (Subject: Pocket Testament League. 33½ rpm)
8. "Where Is Who" (Subject: Youth Education in Stewardship. 33½ rpm)
9. "Who Will Go?" (Subject: Church Vocations. 78 rpm)

BY THE FIRESIDE

GOD'S WAY

I SOUGHT HIM in the still, far place where flowers blow
 In sun-bathed soil;
 I found Him where the thousand life-streams flow
 Through sin and toil.
 I listened for His step within the still, deep cloistered shrine
 Of secret thought;
 I heard it o'er the world's heart tumult, still divine,
 The voice I sought.
 I thought, far off alone, to feel His presence by my side,
 His joy to gain;
 I felt His touch upon life's weary pulse beside
 A bed of pain.
 So those who seek the Master following their own way—
 Of gain, or loss—
 Will find Him where their dreams of self are laid away,
 And there—a cross.

—Author Not Known

FOUR TREES

A Fable

By Margaret McCord Lee

FOUR trees growing side by side became very friendly as the years passed. One day they exchanged confidences and expressed their desires. All agreed they would like to be as useful when cut as they had been in their lives. They had given shade and rest to many a traveler and caravan.

One by one the trees were cut down and carried away.

The first one was made into an oxen's yoke by the hands of the Young Carpenter of Galilee.

"I'm going to be useful after all," sighed the tree. "And how tenderly the lad caressed me into this shape. 'His yoke is easy,' I'm sure I will not be a burden."

Time passed and the second tree was felled and carried away. The tree was worried about his outcome. But at last he knew what was to happen.

"I'm going to be useful, after all," cried the little tree and he was content. Because he was to be made into oars for the fishermen's boats along the sea of Galilee.

The third tree was cut and taken into a shop where he was planed and made into a table. One day he found himself in an Upper Room in the home of John Mark. "I'm going to be useful," he had said when he became a table. But as he saw Jesus and the

twelve come in and sit down he whispered to himself, "This is an unforgettable occasion. I'm glad I had a part in this supper."

The fourth tree was felled by a woodsman who was loath to cut the last tree where there had been others growing. "Orders are orders," muttered the man, "and the Romans are demanding more crosses all the time! 'Tis a beautiful tree, I wonder whose body it will bear!"

The tree shuddered! "I wanted to be useful . . . but to become a cross is hideous indeed!"

Then the day came and he knew the name of the one he was to bear. It was Jesus of Nazareth! The Master who had often stopped to rest and pray in the shade of his branches.

Then he remembered how one time after Jesus had been far spent when first he arrived under the tree, had refreshed himself with prayer and just before leaving he had touched the tree and said, "You will never be forgotten!"

"How little did I realize what he actually was saying!" murmured the tree. "I who gave him shade in life, and tried to make his body comfortable at the last, can be useful after all. For when in the future people see a cross they will be reminded that the Son of Man gave his life that others might be saved."

Church Management

God in Tomorrow

The Oriental shepherd was ahead of his sheep. He was in any attempt upon them had him into account. Now God is in front. He is in the tomorrow tomorrow that fills men with But God is there already, and the morrows of our life have to pass before they can get to us.—F. B. J.

Living With a Handicap

By Ray Freeman Jenney

The story of one of the great students of Harvard College, William Eliot, is worth recalling with a serious facial disfigurement he discovered as a young man nothing could be done about it he must go through life with a mark. It is related that when his mother brought to him that tragic fact it was indeed "the darkest hour of his soul." His mother told him, "son, it is not possible for you to overcome this handicap. We have consulted the best surgeons, and they said nothing can be done. But it is possible for you, with God's help, to get your mind and soul so big that people will forget to look at your face." Pulpit.

A young girl baby sitter in a urban town had a different kind of job the other night.

"I'm going out," said the woman who called, "and I wish you'd sit for Grandpa. He's 92 and sort of feeble and I just want somebody here in the house while he's asleep. He'll be in bed around 9 o'clock, and I'll be by 11."

It worked out all right, except Grandpa thought the baby sitter was pretty young to be up so late. He sat up till 11 with the sitter.

At a banquet the speaker finished a tiring ovation and the guests exhaled a puff of relief.

"I'm glad that bombastic winter is through," he told the woman beside him. "To me it was pusillanimous, and a premeditated and deliberate hypocrite."

"Would you mind saying that a little more politely?" smiled the lady. "I might sometime have occasion to use the word against him. He's my husband."

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION GOALS

Continued from page 9)

GOALS OF THE LDR

Arna Njaa of the ELC

Lutheran Daughters of the Re-
son is the missionary society for
business and professional women
high school girls of the ELC. It
also the program and activ-
the Lutheran Children of the
ation for boys and girls below
ation age.

the purposes of the LDR are
four paragraphs they may be
sized this way: As an arm of
urch the LDR and LCR seek
deepen the spiritual life of
members through a study of the
and information about the ad-
vent of the Kingdom of God.
y, the LDR and LCR seek to
p opportunities for the exper-
f service to God by means of
witnessing, giving and going.
the LDR has committed itself
support of a number of mission
through free-will offerings we
that first we support the work
church through the channels of
gregation. The LDR gives op-
ty for the teaching and practic-
the stewardship of the whole

BOOK REVIEWS

g the last World War, thou-
of bombing planes were sent
sions of destruction. After the
few of them were taken over
mercial service. They are called
ted bombers." A converted
is the same plane that once
a lethal load of destruction.
the same wings and fuselage,
e type motors, the same cock-
instrument panel. The bomb
e gone. The gun turret is gone.
new paint job, but it is essen-
same plane. It has however,
ference. It has a new owner.
es a new cargo. It has a new
his is true conversion.
ristian conversion, Jesus Christ
us from the old life and pos-
s for God. He enters into the
of the heart, takes over the

GUYER AND HANSEN

LOANS

ANCE — REAL ESTATE

cessor to N. T. Lund Co.

Blair, Nebraska

Guyer

P. V. Hansen

controls and operates the old life on
a new course, pointing us to a new
and glorious purpose— "... the king-
dom of God and his righteousness
..." This means, of course, that all
our relationships and activities are to
be converted and viewed now in the
light of our new mission. The old job,
the old routine of that day, the old
cargo which remains to be carried,
may be lifted through Jesus Christ
and moved toward God. The spiritual
may invade and take over the secular
through a new purpose by the power
of Jesus Christ.

Do you want to venture on a sacred
mission and serve an eternal cause?
Then turn over the controls to Jesus

Christ. Recognize the fact that you be-
long utterly to God. Then start oper-
ating your home, your business, your
job with your heart set on God's King-
dom and His goodness.

Robert Boyd Munger, in
What Jesus Says
(Fleming H. Revell Co.).

The church is not to be judged by
the frailties or failures of its members.
The church is to be judged for what it
can do for a person, and what it offers
in its ideals, its resources, and not by
those who have let the church down.

Robert Boyd Munger, in
What Jesus Says
(Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Plan An Ideal Vacation For Your Family This Summer



FAMILY BIBLE CAMP Lake Okoboji - August 11-18

Get the most out of your family vacation by sharing in the con-
genial atmosphere of Family Bible Camp. Family devotions; Bible
study and discussion for parents; inspirational periods and super-
vised swimming for the children each morning. Evening chapel
meetings with varied programs.

Cost: \$14.00 plus 50c insurance per adult per week. \$2.50 per
day plus 50c insurance.

Half price for children 4 to 8 years of age. (50c insur.)

No charge for children 3 and under.

If reservations are made beforehand the insurance covers travel
both ways.

Send reservations to:

Mr. Dave Thomsen
Lutheran Bible Camp
Lake Okoboji at Miller's Bay
Rt. 2, Milford, Iowa

PASTOR H. IRVING PETERSEN, CAMP DIRECTOR

REST ♦ RECREATION ♦ WORSHIP

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Synodical Budget comprises: (1) Children's Homes, (2) School Fund, (3) General, (4) Home Mission, (5) Indian Mission, (6) Pension Fund.
 **Extra-Synodical comprises: (A) Foreign Missions (where most needed), (B) South America, (C) Japan, (D) Santal, (E) Sudan, (F) Jewish, (G) China.

	Fiscal Year	Calendar Year	Extra-Synodical**
	TOTAL	Synodical*	
Previously acknowledged (May 31, 1957)	46277.68	4286.08	30202.07
Ames, Iowa, from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Truelsen in memory of Mads Johanson—Pension Fund	2.00	2.00	
Co. Bluffs, Ia., from Mrs. Anna Hansen and Florence Hansen in memory of N. J. J. Nelson of Neola, Iowa	2.00		(B) 2.00
Brush, Colo., from Mrs. Albert Westergaard, Eben Ezer Luth. Church in memory of departed dear ones, Home Mission \$15, Foreign Mission \$10	25.00	15.00	(A) 10.00
Trufant, Mich., St. Thomas Luth. Church	219.18		
Coulter, Ia., from Mrs. Lena Brown, Nazareth Luth. Church, in memory of Henry Brown	100.00		(A) 100.00
Coulter, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church, from Mr. and Mrs. Willard Latham	5.00		(D) 5.00
Neenah, Wis., from Our Savior's Luth. Church, Senior Ladies Aid in memory of Mrs. Lena Christiansen, for Home Mission	5.00	5.00	
Blair, Nebr., from Guyer & Hansen in memory of Mrs. H. J. Hansen	5.00	5.00	
Sleepy Eye, Minn., from Mrs. A. B. Walters, Trinity Luth. Church in memory of her husband For Dr. Winther \$15.00	10.00		(D) 10.00
Norwalk, Calif., Trin. Luth. Church, General Fund	569.00	500.00	
Exira, Ia., from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Toft, Houston, Tex., in memory of Martin Toft for School Fund	5.00	5.00	
Hutchinson, Minn., from Mrs. Jim Anderson, Main St. Luth. Church	10.00		(A) 10.00
Fresno, Calif., Pacific Dist. Payment on parsonage at Whittier for June—Home Mission	125.00	125.00	
Royal, Ia., Bethlehem Luth. Church, Easter Offering from S.S.	89.65		
Elk Horn, Ia., from Mrs. Anders Hansen	15.00		(A) 15.00
Des Moines, Ia., from Mr. Arthur Andreasen sent by Rev. Ervin Bondo	5.00		(C) 5.00
Orum, Nebr., Immanuel Luth. Church, General Fund Quota	50.00	50.00	
Kenosha, Wis., St. Mary's Ev. Luth. Church	350.00		
Neola, Ia., St. Paul's Luth. S. S.	8.14		(B) 8.14
Plainview, Nebr., Bethany Luth. Church, General Fund	44.80	44.80	
Camp Douglas, Wis., Shenington, St. Peter's Luth. Church, General Fund	50.00	50.00	
Plainview, Nebr., Bethany Luth. S. S. from Vacation Bible School for Indian Mission	14.36	14.36	
Poy Sippi, Wis., First Luth. Church, General Fund	100.00	100.00	
Cushing, Nebr., St. John's Luth. Church, General Fund	50.00	50.00	
Elk Horn, Ia., Luth. Church Sunday School	200.00		(A) 200.00
Blair, Nebr., W.M.S. Synodical Treasurer:			
Life Memberships for Mrs. Marie Rasmussen and Mrs. Esther Christensen, St. Ansgar Ladies Aid—Japan Mission	13.50		(C) 13.50
For Mrs. Alfred V. Andersen from Oaks Missions Circle, Albert Lea, Minn., for So. Am. Mission	6.75		(B) 6.75
For Mrs. Waldo Hansen and Mrs. Clarence Johnson from Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid, Wau-paca for So. Am. Mission	13.50		(B) 13.50
From Pacific Dist. W.M.S. for Silver Anniv. Off. from Bethesda Bulder Club, Eugene, Ore., \$40; W.M.S., Pasadena, Calif., \$15; Bethany Guild, Pasadena, \$28; Women of Bethany, Portland, Ore., \$60, ½ to School Fund, ½ to Home Missions	143.00	143.00	
From Nebr. Dist. W.M.S. for Silver Anniv. Off. from Ebenezer, Miss. Soc., Curtis, Nebr., \$9; Daughters of Bethany, Minden, Nebr., \$4; Luth. Ladies Aid, Dannebrog, \$9; St. John's Luth. L. A., St. Paul, \$3; Gethsemane Luth. L. A., Laurel, \$2.70; Bethany Ladies Aid, Minden, Nebr., \$15; Dry Creek Ladies Aid, Dannebrog, \$9; Emmaus Lutheranettes, Kennard, \$3; Hill Creek Ladies Aid, Herman, \$12; Women of Christ the King, Denver, Colo., \$25; Our Savior's Luth. L. A., Cordova, Nebr., \$27; Lutheran Guild, Lincoln, \$14.30; Westwood Luth. Ladies Aid, Kansas City, Kan., \$12.50; Lutheran Guild, Blair, Nebr., \$58; Circuit Rally Offering, at Lincoln, Nebr., \$81.62, all divided equally between School and Home Mission	285.12	285.12	
From Nebr. Dist. W.M.S. for Tabor, Salt Lake City, Utah, Parish Worker salary from Eben-Ezer, Miss. Soc., Curtis, Nebr., \$15.60; Daughters of Bethany, Minden, \$20.70; Luth. L. A., Dannebrog, \$9.80; St. John's Luth. L. A., St. Paul, Nebr., \$7.98; Gethsemane L. A., Laurel, \$11.20; Dry Creek, L. A., Dannebrog, \$4.80; Sunshine Circle, Dannebrog, \$8.85; Tabor Luth. L. A., Salt Lake City, Utah, \$17.80; Orum L. A. \$6.48; Emmaus Lutheranettes, Kennard, Nebr., \$6.62 for Home Mission	109.83	109.83	
From Nebr. Dist. W.M.S. for Margaret Nissen's Salary: From Ebenezer Mission Soc., Curtis, Nebr., \$15.60; Daughters of Bethany, Minden, \$20.70; Lutheran L. A., Dannebrog \$9.80; St. John's Luth. L. A., St. Paul, \$7.97; Gethsemane, Luth. L. A., Laurel, \$11.20; Bethany L. A., Minden, \$5.80; Dry Creek, L. A., Dannebrog, Nebr., \$4.80; Sunshine Circle, Dannebrog, \$8.85; Bethesda L. A., Winnetoon, Nebr., in memory of Mrs. Clara Halvorsen \$10; Tabor Luth. L. A., Salt Lake City, Utah, \$17.80; Orum L. A., Orum, \$6.47; Emmaus Lutheranettes, Kennard, \$6.63. All for the Sudan Mission	125.62		(E) 125.62
Gray, Iowa, from Mr. and Mrs. Theodor Mortensen	25.00		(A) 25.00
Honey Creek, Ia., from Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Christensen, K. M. Christensens, Mary Lou Christensen, Mary Nelson, Lydia Christensen and Walter Jacobsen in memory of Mr. N. J. J. Nelsen, Neola, Ia., Boomer township for Elk Horn Old People's Home \$5			
Dannebrog, Nebr., Luth. Church from Rev. and Mrs. Viggo J. Petersen in memory of Rev. Petersen's brother Anker B. Petersen for School Fund	10.00	10.00	
TOTAL	49069.13	5800.19	30751.58

Received with thanks.

June 8, 1957, 1957.

P. V. Hansen, Treas

FINAL FIGURES OF MEMBERSHIPS BY DISTRICTS

Too late we discovered a couple of minor errors in the membership figures given in my statistical report in Pre-Convention Report. In order to avoid miscalculations in figuring district proportions of the synodical budget or other uses the final and correct statement is hereby presented. One error occurred in the confirmed membership of the Atlantic District, which is 1499 (not 1429), and makes the total for synod 38,650 (not 38,580). Another error occurred in figuring the gain of baptized membership for the year, which should be 2172 (not 2072), an increase of 3.6%. Here follows the corrected list.

District	Bapt.	Conf.	Adult	Com.
Atlantic	2306	1499	1270	1208
Illinois	3231	2024	1764	1556
Wisconsin	12342	7616	6329	6334
Minnesota	7347	4867	4296	4009
Iowa	15190	9365	7858	6836
No. Dak.-Mont.	2521	1730	1371	1042
Nebraska	7537	4718	3715	4250
Pacific	9475	5642	5011	4821
W. Canada	2055	1189	1023	835

Tot. for synod 62004 38650 32637 30881

These figures vary slightly from those given in a previous report in our papers. The reason is, that a few late parochial reports came in after the time a report had to be given to the synodical president, and in such cases we have to use the figures from the previous year. Included in that early report was also the memberships of the new congregation (or-

ganized Mar. 3, 1957) at Whit Calif., but were not counted in final setup, because the report is 1956.

A mistake also occurred when gain of confirmed membership for past year was figured. The final ure of 1955 for synod was 37,738 (37,771 as given in Pre-Convention port of 1955 and copied by mistake thus the correct figure is 38,650 mi 37,738 or 912 gain, an increase 2.36% in confirmed membership.

We regret these variations and rors occurred. Some of them co have been avoided if all paroc reports were received earlier, le ing us more time to tabulate and p pare our Pre-Convention report, especially avoid changing figures ter the tabulation and counting is ished.

P. C.

AND NOTES

Continued from Page 2

od, California — Allan D. and Douglas J. Toepel, Pastors. has just had its first Men's Retreat. The camp which is in the mountains, began evening and concluded Sunday. This Retreat was sponsored by the Men's Brotherhood of the . There were seventy-one men in attendance. Pastor Hansen says he has never seen a camp or remarked with such a deep humility and prayer. The camp was so enthused with the retreat that they now wish to make it a permanent part of the church pro-

ota W.M.S. Circuit No. 4 was held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Albert Lea, Minn. May 15th. George Pallesen was the main attraction. 205 women were present from Geneva, Ellendale, Owatonna, and Albert Lea. Mrs. Marie was an honored guest because she was 97 on May 8th.

CURTAIN LUTHERANS AT
IRON CURTAIN CONFERENCE

Conference at Liselund, Denmark brought closer relations between the churches was attended by representatives of several Lutheran churches behind the Iron Curtain.

an delegates to the meeting were Archbishop Gustavs Turs of Sweden, Archbishop Jaan Kiivit of Finland, Bishop Lajos Ordass, Dr. Veto and the Rev. Gyoergy of Hungary, and the Rev. Michelis of Poland.

announced that 38 churches from 15 countries were represented at the conference, held May 27-31, to discuss main subjects, "The One Church in a Disunited Europe," "Our Responsibility Towards One Another," and "The Church in the World."

legates were sent by the German Lutheran Churches and the Russian Lutheran Church in Germany, because they suspected it was a political tinge.

absent were official representatives from the State Lutheran Churches of Norway, Sweden and Denmark, the attending observers only. Nor did the Lutheran World Federation or the World Council of Churches rep-

The initiative in arranging the conference came from the so-called Brussels Conference, formed in 1955. Leaders included Dr. Ernst Wilm, president of the German Evangelical Church of Westphalia, and Dr. Egbert Emmen of the Netherlands Reformed Church.

For Bishop Ordass it marked the first time in nearly ten years that he was able to attend church meetings outside Hungary. He arrived in Salzerbad, Austria, on May 20 as head of a nine-man delegation from the Hungarian Lutheran Church to attend a meeting arranged by the Lutheran World Federation to discuss the theme of its Third Assembly at Minneapolis this summer.

Following the Salzerbad sessions, Bishop Ordass flew to Berlin on May 26 and had a brief conference with Bishop Otto Dibelius, president of the Evangelical Church in Germany. He was joined there by Dr. Veto, former bishop of the Hungarian Church, and Pastor Kendeh, who accompanied him to Liselund.

Dr. Veto, now lecturing at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Budapest, and Pastor Kendeh, now pastor of the Large Kelenfoeld congregation in Budapest, and director of relief activities for the Lutheran Church, returned to Hungary on June 1.

Bishop Ordass remained in Denmark and preached at the Cathedral in Copenhagen on June 2 before returning to Budapest on June 3.

4,351,080 LUTHERANS IN FINLAND,
NEW MEMBERSHIP FIGURES
SHOW

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland has 4,351,080 members in 564 parishes, according to latest statistics released at Helsinki.

Second largest church in the country is the Orthodox Church of Finland with 75,396 members in 25 parishes.

The figures, based upon membership through December 31, 1956, were reported by the Information Service of the Church of Finland.

The biggest minority church, the Service said, is the Free Church of Finland with 7,167 members in 18 congregations. The Methodist Church has 2,515 members, the Baptist Church, 1,975; the Adventists, 4,027; Jehovah's Witnesses, 2,563 and the Roman Catholic Church, 1,940 members.

LWF'S REQUEST TO VISIT SIBERIA
NOT ACKNOWLEDGED

An exploratory request from the Lutheran World Federation to send

a delegation to visit Lutheran church groups in Siberia has not been acknowledged by the Russian government although it was made last October, it was reported at Geneva early in June.

The Rev. Bengt Hoffman, director of the LWF's Department of World Service, said the federation hoped to establish contact with "newly-discovered" groups in Siberia who have evidently maintained church life despite their isolation from the rest of the world for the past twenty years.

The Lutheran Church in Russia was officially dissolved in 1938 but early this year a letter was received in Germany from a pastor in Siberia requesting 10,000 Confirmation certificates. These were sent by the German Protestant Churches, along with many relief packages.

Mr. Hoffman disclosed that the churches in East Germany are also printing a new Bible for the Lutherans in Siberia, using a modified Gothic type since the exiles cannot read modern German type.

An interesting sidelight is that the East German churches, in printing the covers of the Bible, will use gold that had originally been intended by the State for the cover of a book containing the writings of Joseph Stalin. The gold has been stored in East German print shops since Stalin "went out of fashion" and production of his book was halted.

During a recent visit to Berlin, Mr. Hoffman was told that there are an estimated million ethnic Germans in Siberia, many of whom have kept up their Lutheran tradition. Many are also Mennonites. They were deported to Siberia by the Russian regime in the 1930's.

According to the scant information that has been received, the people are using "lay preachers" since it is difficult to have pastors theologically trained and ordained. They have also requested copies of sermons and worship services for all occasions which could be read by these preachers.

The LWF's letter asking for information on the possibility of sponsoring a delegation to Siberia was sent to the Russian Legation in Bern, Switzerland, but it has neither been acknowledged nor answered, Mr. Hoffman said.

Take inventory . . .

HAVE ANY OF THESE EVENTS HAPPENED TO YOU RECENTLY?

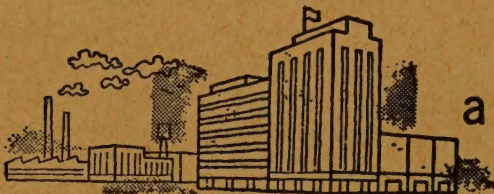


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